

# 6

Science Standard  
6.2.b.



## Dictionary

California Education and the Environment Initiative



# The Dynamic Nature of Rivers



# Dictionary

# A

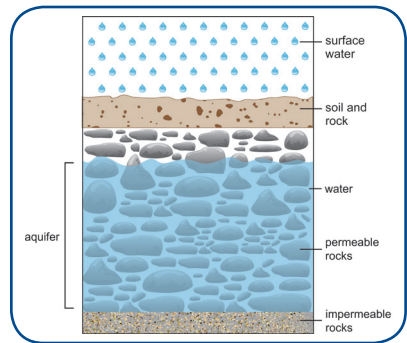
## aqueduct

A structure used to move water from one place to another.



## aquifer

An underground layer of rock or sediment that holds usable amounts of groundwater.



# B

## barrier

A structure designed to prevent access or to separate things.







## bay

A body of water set off from a larger water body.



## benefit

(noun) An improvement or advantage.

(verb) To do good or to give aid.



## channel

The bed of a stream, a river, or another waterway.

C

## **delta**

A large, usually triangle-shaped area at the mouth of a river that gradually builds up as the river deposits sediments.



## **deposition**

The depositing or settling of rock or soil from one place in another.



## **E**

## **erode**

To wear away.





### **erosion**

The moving of rock and soil from place to place by wind, water, or ice.



### **estuary**

The lower end of a river as it empties into a bay or the ocean and mixes with salt water.



### **fertile (land)**

Land with nutrient-rich soils that produce abundant plant growth.

## **flood**

The overflow of water onto dry land.



## **flood cycle**

The periodic seasonal pattern of flooding in a river system.



## **floodplain**

A flat area along a river that floods when water flows outside of a river's banks.







### **flow**

The movement of a material, such as water.



### **headwaters**

The springs or small streams that supply water where a river first starts.



### **hydroelectricity**

Electricity produced by water power, typically when running water is used to turn a generator.



# I

## irrigation

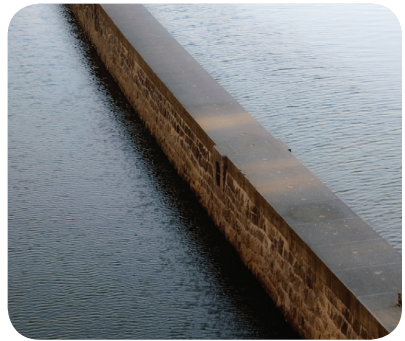
A system that provides water to land through pipes, artificial channels, or other methods.



# J

## jetty

A structure that runs perpendicular to the shoreline, built by humans to influence currents and protect harbors and coastal areas.



# L

## landscape

The natural features of an area of land, such as trees and hills.



**meander**

A winding section of a river or stream.

**oxbow lake**

A bow-shaped lake formed in an old channel as a river changes its path over a long time.

**riparian**

Related to or located along the banks of a river or other waterway.



**sediment**

Stones, sand, and soil carried by water, wind, or glaciers.

**sedimentation**

The settling of sand, rocks, or other material carried by water, wind, or ice.

**slough**

A swamp or marsh formed by backwater of a larger waterway, full of soft, muddy ground.





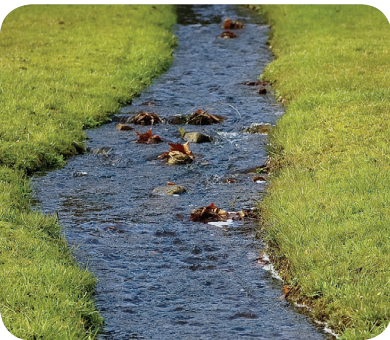
### **streambed**

The channel through which a stream runs or previously ran.



### **suspension**

A liquid with solid particles that are mixed throughout it.



### **tributary**

A small river or stream that flows into a larger one.

T

W

## **watershed**

The land area that drains water into a particular body of water, such as a stream, river, lake, or ocean.





Unit Title: **The Dynamic Nature of Rivers**

Grade: **6**

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